

## Message Text

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ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-13 USIE-00 FDRE-00  
IGA-02 AGR-10 L-03 SSO-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07  
NSAE-00 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 EPG-02 /126 W  
-----061254Z 045333 /43

O R 061004Z MAY 77  
FM AMEMBASSY DACCA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4534  
INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
/AMEMBASSY ROME 0231

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 DACCA 2438

ROME FOR FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS : EAGR, EAID, BG  
SUBJECT : SCHEDULE OF FOODGRAIN SHIPMENTS TO  
BANGLADESH

REF : DACCA 2440

1. SUMMARY. AT INVITATION OF UNDP AND WFP, LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES OF MAJOR FOOD DONORS MET MAY 5 TO POOL LATEST AVAILABLE INFO ON FOODGRAIN ARRIVALS THROUGH DECEMBER, 1977 AND TO PERMIT WFP ADVISOR SUGGEST OPTIMUM SCHEDULE TO DONORS. ADVISOR ALSO PROVIDED SOME INFO ON PORT SITUATION. THIS MESSAGE PROJECTS ARRIVALS MONTHLY AND RAISES SOME URGENT QUESTIONS CONCERNING TIMING OF U.S. FOOD SHIPMENTS. REVISED FULL FORECAST WILL FOLLOW SEPTTEL. END SUMMARY.

2. ON BASIS LATEST INFO AVAILABLE TO WFP ADVISOR AND DONOR MISSIONS HERE, MONTH-BY-MONTH SHIPPING ARRIVALS BY SOURCE WILL BE:

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MONTH	DONOR/SOURCE	COMMODITY	QUANTITY
(THOUSAND TONS)			

MAY	EEC	WHEAT	50
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COMMERCIAL

PURCHASES	RICE	80
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WHEAT	25
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TOTAL	155
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JUNE	EEC	WHEAT	50
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FRG	WHEAT	40
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USA	WHEAT	92
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WFP	WHEAT	35
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COMMERCIAL

PURCHASES	WHEAT	25
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RICE	20
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TOTAL	262
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JULY	EEC	WHEAT	50
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USA	WHEAT	108
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WFP	WHEAT	30
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TOTAL	188
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AUGUST	AUSTRALIA	WHEAT	50
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UK	WHEAT	20
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USA	WHEAT	57
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TOTAL	127
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SEPT.	CANADA	WHEAT	65
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JAPAN	RICE	12
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WFP	WHEAT	35
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TOTAL	112
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OCTOBER	CANADA	WHEAT	85
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USA RICE 75

WHEAT 25

TOTAL 185

NOV. ITALY RICE 6

USA WHEAT 50

TOTAL 56

3. THERE ARE SEVERAL POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL AMOUNTS WHICH MAY ARRIVE BEFORE END-DECEMBER, AS FOLLOWS:

(A) WFP EMERGENCY RELIEF WHEAT: 75,000 TONS.

WFP ADVISOR HAS RECOMMENDED THAT WFP SUPPLY  
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75,000 TONS OF WHEAT FOR EMERGENCY FOOD WORK RELIEF PROJECTS TO BE UNDERTAKEN IN FLOOD-AFFECTED AREAS (LARGELY IN SYLHET). WHILE WFP HEADQUARTERS HAS YET TO APPROVE THIS REQUEST, SUCH APPROVAL IS CONSIDERED VERY LIKELY AT LEAST FOR MOST OF THE REQUESTED AMOUNT;

(B) EEC FY 78 FOOD AID WHEAT: 70,000 TONS. THE EEC PLEDGED UP TO 100,000 TONS TO BANGLADESH IN FY 78, WITH 70,000 TO ARRIVE IN CY 1977 AND THE REMAINDER SUBJECT TO REVIEW. ACCORDING TO THE WFP ADVISOR, THE EEC HAS NOT YET SCHEDULED SHIPMENT OF 70,000 TONS PENDING BDG REPLIES TO QUESTIONS CONCERNING (1) THE USE OF COUNTERPART FUNDS GENERATED BY EARLIER EEC FOOD AID; AND (2) IDENTIFICATION OF BDG SELF-HELP MEASURES UNDERTAKEN TO BOOST DOMESTIC FOODGRAIN PRODUCTION.

4. CANADA. ACCORDING CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSION OFFICER CONCERNED, A CANADIAN FOOD AID TEAM WILL ARRIVE DACCA MAY 29 TO: (A) SCHEDULE SHIPMENT OF 130,000 TONS WHEAT FOR WORK REGULAR FY 78 FOOD AID PROGRAM; (B) CONSIDER PROVISION OF 20,000 TONS OF WHEAT FOR EMERGENCY FOOD FOR WORK RELIEF PROGRAMS (CANADIAN HICOM HERE CONSIDERS THIS A VIRTUAL CERTAINTY AND HENCE WE HAVE INCLUDED THIS AMOUNT, SHOWING IT ARRIVING IN OCTOBER); AND (C) TO DISCUSS BDG REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL 150,000 TONS OF WHEAT UNDER ADDITIONAL CANADIAN FY 78 AID PROGRAM. CANADIAN HICOM REP NOTED THAT CANADIAN EAST COAST PORTS FREEZE UP AROUND OCTOBER FIRST, AND THAT THESE AMOUNTS MIGHT HAVE TO BE SHIPPED NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER.

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-13 USIE-00 FDRE-00  
IGA-02 AGR-10 L-03 SSO-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07  
NSAE-00 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 EPG-02 /126 W  
-----061300Z 044792 /43

O R 061004Z MAY 77  
FM AMEMBASSY DACCA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4535  
INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
AMEMBASSY ROME

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5. PORT CAPACITY. WFP ADVISOR PROVIDED FOLLOWING INFORMATION FROM BDG ON PORT STORAGE CAPACITY, BDG MONTHLY MOVEMENT (FROM PORTS INLAND) PLANS, AND CURRENT LIGHTER-AGE SITUATION:

A. PORT STORAGE CAPACITY

(I) CHITTAGONG: SILO 100,000 TONS  
CSDS 92,000 TONS

(II) KHULNA/CHALNA CSDS 105,000 TONS  
TOTAL 297,000 TONS

B. MONTHLY MOVEMENT PLAN

(I) FROM CHITTAGONG 115,000 TONS

(II) FROM KHULNA/CHALNA 60,000 TONS  
TOTAL 175,000 TONS

C. AVAILABLE LIGHTERS. BANGLADESH TRANSPORT TASK GROUP (BTTG) HAD ONLY ONE 6,000 TON LIBERTY VESSEL, AND TWO SMALL COASTERS. ACCORDINGLY, TO PROGRAM THESE  
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INADEQUATE RESOURCES MOST EFFECTIVELY, IT WAS CRITICALLY

IMPORTANT FOR THE BDG TO HAVE ACCURATE INFORMATION ON SHIPMENT TERMS, I.E. FREE OUT OR GROSS, TO DETERMINE IN ADVANCE WHETHER IT WAS THE BTTG RESPONSIBILITY TO LIGHTEN THE VESSEL AT THE OUTER ANCHORAGE OR NOT.

6. OVERALL PORT CAPACITY. TYPICALLY, GRAIN IN BULK ARRIVES ON VESSELS TOO HEAVILY LADEN TO PROCEED DIRECTLY TO ONE OF THE GRAIN JETTIES AT CHITTAGONG OR PROCEED UP RIVER TO CHALNA. SUCH VESSELS MUST ANCHOR IN OUTER ANCHORAGE AND PARTLY UNLOAD BY LIGHTERS. THIS TASK IS SLOWED DURING MONSOON WEATHER AS IT BECOMES MORE DIFFICULT FOR THE LIGHTER TO STAY ALONG SIDE THE FREIGHTER. THUS, TOTAL PORT CAPACITY (BOTH CHITTAGONG AND CHALNA) WHICH CAN RANGE UP TO 200,000 TONS MONTHLY MAY BE EXPECTED TO BE REDUCED BELOW THAT UPPER LIMIT IN THE MONSOON MONTHS OF JULY, AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER.

7. SHIPMENT FLEXIBILITY. SCHEDULE PRESENTED IN PARA 2 ABOVE COULD CHANGE FURTHER, AS WFP ADVISOR CONSULTS WITH THOSE DONORS (E.G. AUSTRALIA, CANADA, EEC--FOR 70,000 TONS UNDER FY 78 PROGRAM--AND USA--FOR POTENTIAL 150,000 TONS UNDER YET-TO-BE-NEGOTIATED AMENDMENT), WHICH HAVE FLEXIBILITY IN SCHEDULING FOOD AID SHIPMENTS. (WE REMINDED WFP ADVISOR THAT WE ARE NOT AUTHORIZED TO OPEN NEGOTIATIONS FOR 150,000 TONS BUT IF SUCH AN AMENDMENT WERE CONCLUDED, US GRAINS WOULD HAVE TO BE LOADED ON VESSELS FOR SHIPMENT BY SEPTEMBER 30, THE CLOSE OF THE US FISCAL YEAR.) WE HAVE TENTATIVELY SHOWN 100,000 TONS ARRIVING IN OCTOBER AND 50,000 IN NOVEMBER. THIS FLEXIBILITY IN SHIPPING SCHEDULES, COMBINED WITH NORMAL SHIPPAGE AND UNFORESEEN PROBLEMS (E.G. PORT STRIKES) MAKES IT IMPERATIVE THAT MISSION AND WASHINGTON AGENCIES STAY IN CLOSEST TOUCH ON ISSUANCES OF PA'S AND ACTUAL SHIPMENT SCHEDULING.

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8. U.S. SHIPMENTS. WFP ADVISOR STATED BDG FOOD MINISTRY HAD RECEIVED TELEX FROM BDG EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON STATE-ING THAT 92,000 TONS US TITLE I WHEAT WOULD ARRIVE IN JUNE ON FOLLOWING VESSELS:

(A) AGUA GEM, ETA CHITTAGONG JUNE 10TH 42,000 TONS

(B) VANTAGE DEFENDER, ETA CHITTAGONG JUNE 15TH, 50,000 TONS  
IF THIS INFORMATION IS CORRECT, THEN US SHIPMENTS WILL;

(A) EXCEED MISSION'S RECOMMENDATION BY 42,000 TONS;  
AND (B) GREATLY EXACERBATE PORT HANDLING PROBLEM. PLEASE  
LET US KNOW EXACT SHIPPING INFORMATION, INCLUDING TERMS  
(I.E. FREE OUT OR GROSS) PER PARA DISCHARGE 5C ABOVE BELOW.

THE 108,000 TIBS SHOWN IN JULY IS MERELY THE REMAINDER FROM THE 200,000 TONS UNDER OUR APRIL FIRST TITLE I AGREEMENT. THE PRESENT OUTLOOK IS NOW VERY SERIOUS INDEED. GIVEN A MAXIMUM PORT CAPACITY OF ABOUT 200,000 TONS, IT APPEARS HIGHLY PROBABLE THAT ABOUT 75,000 TONS OF THE 262,000 SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE IN JUNE WILL NOT ACTUALLY BE OFFLOADED FROM VESSELS UNTIL JULY, WHEN A FURTHER 188,000 IS ALREADY SCHEDULED. ACCORDINGLY, 75,000 MORE TONS WOULD BE BACKED UP INTO AUGUST. ADDING TO THE PROBLEM STILL IS THE PROBABILITY OF THE ADDITIONAL 75,000 TONS OF WFP EMERGENCY RELIEF WHEAT (PARA 3A ABOVE) FOR WHICH APPROVAL IS LIKELY AND WHICH COULD WELL ARRIVE DURING THE JUNE TO AUGUST PERIOD. AGWPNST THIS BACKGROUND, WE RECOMMEND THAT ABOUT 75,000 TONS OF THE TOTAL US TITLE I SHIPMENTS SCHEDULED AT PRESENT TO ARRIVE IN JULY BE RESCHEDULED TO REACH BD PORTS IN AUGUST.

9. REVISED FORECAST. REFTTEL PROVIDES REVISED MONTH-BY-MONTH FOODGRAIN FORECAST, DRAWING ON ABOVE SHIPPING INFORMATION.  
MASTERS

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## Message Attributes

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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SCHEDULE OF FOODGRAIN SHIPMENTS TO BANGLADESH  
**TAGS:** EAGR, EAID, BG  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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